

of the rehabilitation schemes u/s 17 (2) and 18(4) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(b) Does not arise.

Financial assistance to J and K *Vis-a-Vis* other States

1779. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the financial assistance to Jammu and Kashmir is greater than that of other States; and

(b) if so, the percentage of financial assistance given to Jammu and Kashmir in comparison to other States specially North-East States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The financial assistance to J and K during the year 1999-2000 was 9% of the total financial assistance to all the States, as against 16% assistance to the eight North-East States put together.

Filling up of reserved vacancies in Banks

1780. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTUDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vacancies reserved for SCs / STs and Backward Classes in all Nationalised Banks have been filled as on date;

(b) if so, the details thereof Bank-wise / category-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons for not filling up of these posts in each bank; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) As per the Annual Review Report about implementation of reservation policy by Public Sector Banks as at the end of year 1998 (latest available) the prescribed percentage of SCs / STs in various categories were complete in some cases, while there is still some shortfall in other cases. Bank-wise representation of SCs / STs and OBCs in various Public Sector Banks in different categories as on 31st December, 1998 is given in Annexures I and II respectively [See Appendix 190, Annexure No. 25]

(c) The reasons for shortfall / backlog of SCs / STs and OBC vacancies include *inter alia*:—

- (i) Certain loss making banks had signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Reserve Bank of India which stipulated non-filling of Fresh vacancies for some period.
- (ii) Non-availability of sufficient ST candidates in many States.
- (iii) Difficulty encountered in getting suitable reserved category candidates for specialized posts.
- (iv) Non-reporting of some selected reserved category candidates on their appointment to various posts.
- (v) Introduction reservation for Other Backward Classes only from September, 1993.
- (vi) 50% ceiling on the number of vacancies to be filled on the basis of reservation in any year including carried forward reservation imposed by the Supreme Court in the case of Indira Sawhney versus Union of India.

(d) Upto 1997, Special Drives were conducted by banks to weed out the past backlog of unfilled vacancies. In September 1997, Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) issued instructions that the number of vacancies to be filled on the basis of reservation in a year including carried forward reservation should not exceed 50 per cent limit. In view of this, the Special Drives in banks were discontinued. DoP and T has recently revised its instructions that the ceiling of 50 per cent on filling up of reserved vacancies would apply only on reserved vacancies which arise in the current year and backlog / carry forward reserved vacancies for SCs / STs of earlier years would be treated as a separate and distinct group and would not be subject to this ceiling. In view of this, banks are being advised to make concerted efforts to fill up the backlog vacancies.

NRI/MNCs investment in PSUs

†1781. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI:

SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.